



June 2014

Nicki Rucci-Macauda - MEA Newsletter Editor



News and Views

MISSION STATEMENT:

**PROTECT THE CONTRACTURAL RIGHTS OF ALL ITS MEMBERS
AND TO BUILD AN EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIP IN AN
ENVIRONMENT OF PROFESSIONALISM AND MUTUAL RESPECT
IN ORDER TO PROMOTE THE EDUCATIONAL GOALS OF THE
MAYFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT.**

The MEA Officers would like to wish all of our members a safe and relaxing summer vacation! See you in August!



MEA End of the Year Soirée

The Mayfield Education Association End of the Year Soirée was a huge success! The Soirée, which was held on May 16, 2014 at Le-Vera Party Center in Willoughby Hills, generated over \$4,400 which will be used to honor Mayfield High School Graduates with scholarships. Thank you to MEA Members Marty Mackar, Kerri Setlock, and Kim Zanella for all of their hard work to make the event a success! Another Soirée will be planned for next May!





Making a Difference Award

Shelley Bitonti

Our first recipient is Shelley Bitonti. Shelley has been with our district since August of 2007. She currently is a Special Needs Assistant at Millridge . Shelley has been described an amicable person, always having a smile on her face. She is willing to take on any task given to her with professionalism and positivism. What makes Shelley special is that she has her own heartfelt way of demonstrating that she truly cares about her students. She is well liked by both the students and her peers.



Lisa Heinl

Our second recipient is Lisa Heinl. Lisa has been with our district since August of 2007. She currently teaches Math at the High School. Lisa has been instrumental in the development of the Math 2 Common Core Curriculum by creating real world inquiry based lessons that integrate with technology. She spends much time going above and beyond her teaching hours to help students deepen their understanding and formulate new and engaging lessons. As one of her colleagues wrote, “Lisa works cooperatively with her peers and is always presenting new ideas for lessons. “ Thank you for making a difference in our district, Lisa. Congratulations, and please accept this award as a token of the Association’s pride and gratitude.



Joey Mallin

Our next recipient is Joey Mallin. Joey has been with our district since August of 2009 and currently is a special education teacher at the High School. He spends a lot of time with each individual student. His work and efforts have been described as” tireless” while he spends above and beyond time with individual students. His involvement with providing members relevant information for The Fund for Children and Public Education is testimony to his commitment for supporting excellence in our schools.



Jean Richardson

Our last recipient is Jean Richardson. Jean has been with our district since August of 1987. She currently is the Math Coordinator for our district. Jean previously taught at Center , Open School, and at the Middle School. Through her guidance, the Mayfield City Schools have become leaders in math instruction. It is safe to say that without Jean Richardson, Mayfield students, staff and parents would not be where we are today in the area of math. Her knowledge of math is beyond compare, providing staff with countless articles, games, websites, research, teaching methods and strategies on both a professional and personal level. Her peers write, “Jean listened to every suggestions and gave value to our input. She ALWAYS was available to answer our questions-even in the evening and on weekends.” Thank you for making a difference in our district, Jean. Congratulations, and please accept this award as a token of the Association’s pride and gratitude.



MEA Service Awards

Marty Mackar

Our first recognition of service, dedication, and leadership goes to Marty Mackar. Marty has been with Mayfield since August of 2008 and is a math teacher at the High School. His peers have described him as being a passionate individual both in the classroom and as an officer for MEA. Marty strives hard to ensure that all his students succeed in class. His lessons show creativity and solidness towards accomplishing his teaching goals. As an MEA officer and treasurer, he is always willing to help his fellow members with regards to their questions and concerns. Marty has taken the initiative to expand our MEA end of the year social into a grand celebration of its accomplishments and to also extend its support of scholarship funding for the graduating seniors of Mayfield. Ask anyone, and they will tell you his passion is contagious. I personally know that working with him on the soiree this year has enriched my experience as the Honors and Awards chairperson. I think we all share Ryan's Pubentz's feeling that "it's great to work with such an outstanding individual!" Congratulations, Marty on being recognized this year.



Nicki Rucci-Macauda

Our next recognition for service, dedication, and leadership goes to Nicki Rucci-Macauda. Nicki has been with Mayfield since January of 2002 and presently is a third grade teacher at Lander School and has served as an intervention specialist in the past. As the MEA Vice President, Nicki has given of her time and talents in an amazingly unselfish manner. Her commitment to the staff and students of our district is undeniable. She gives countless hours to meetings outside of the school day and year. She is a constant source of information for her building staff and the district with regards to issues related to MEA and the changes being made at the state level that are impacting our careers. As a mother of three young children, and in the midst of a major move, Nicki always makes time for the staff and students of Mayfield. Beyond all of this, she is an amazing teacher who gives 110% to her students each day. As one of her peers states: "It is hard to put into words the value of a member who is selfless with their time, energy, and commitment to the MEA, But to name a person, it would be Nicki Rucci-Macauda." I think we can all wholeheartedly agree with that statement. Congratulations, Nicki, on being recognized this year.



John Paydo

Our final recognition for service, dedication, and leadership is presented to John Paydo. John has been with Mayfield since August of 1992. Currently he presides as the Middle School Guidance Counselor, where he also held a teaching position. John is an amazing asset to our organization. The feeling amongst his peers is that he is, without a doubt, one of the most professional, caring, kind and knowledgeable persons with whom we all have had the pleasure of knowing and working alongside with. His endless hours of dedication to the MEA is unsurpassed, and we are so fortunate to have him as our leader and representative. In addition, John has spent many hours working for MEA and members of the Uniserve Council and for others in OEA and NEOEA. What he does is over and above the duties of the President of our Local. Our Association has been blessed with past presidents who have extended their roles outside of the everyday demands and have dedicated themselves unselfishly for the members, the district, and most importantly, for the students. We are fortunate to currently have a president who continues to demonstrate this service and leadership with us tonight. As one member has relayed, John has been nominated not for just what he does for our organization, but for the kind of man he is. Congratulations, John on being recognized this year.



MEA Scholarships

Congratulation to the following Mayfield High School Graduation Seniors for receiving the Mayfield Education Association Scholarships this year! Best of luck in college!

Haley Jacobson

Haley is in the top 10% of the graduating class. She was an active member in key club as well as the senior class Vice President and a Wildcat Focus mentor. She will be attending Ohio Wesleyan University next year, and she plans to major in elementary education.

Emily Lackner

Emily is an outstanding young lady. She was both a football and basketball cheerleader and a Wildcat Focus Mentor. She will be attending John Carroll University in the fall. She is planning on majoring in education, and she wants to teach middle school.

Marissa Woods

Marissa is in the top 40 of her class. She is a Wildcat Focus mentor, involved in Key Club, the senior class Vice President, and a peer tutor. She will be attending Ohio University, and she would like to major in biology or physical therapy.



June 5th, 2014

Dear Mayfield Education Association,

My name is Mabel Wu, and I was a 2011 recipient of the Mayfield Education Association scholarship. I wanted to share my sincere gratitude for the support this scholarship has brought me over the years. Beyond the monetary value of the scholarship, the support I receive from those who believe in my potential has allowed me to thrive at Ohio State. In addition to focusing on academics, I have been able to engage in so much beyond the classroom!

-I will be a senior at The Ohio State University this autumn. With my involvement in the university Honors Accounting program, I have the unique opportunity to complete two degrees in four years: A Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree and a **Masters of Accounting** degree. Essentially, I will be a graduate student in my senior year of college and taking only graduate level courses to complete my MAcc degree. These two degrees, along with my completed Spanish minor, will allow me to sit for the CPA by May 2015 immediately after graduation, at which point I plan to study vigorously to complete my CPA license before I begin to work full time.

-I will be interning at **Deloitte** in Columbus this summer and am very excited to gain exposure to the audit side of public accounting. I just completed intern orientation at the Cincinnati office this past week and will begin client work next week. During the internship, I will also be traveling to Westlake, Texas for the audit training conference!

-Back at Ohio State, I was recognized with the **Pace Setter's Award** this year from the college of Business, which, "As the college's top honor, the Pace Setter awards celebrate those students who excel both in and out of the classroom and who exemplify the purpose and passion that define Fisher students and graduates". It was humbling to know that my efforts both inside and outside the classroom were appreciated. It was also great to receive this award alongside the students and faculty with whom I work with on a daily basis for these involvements!



At the Pace Setter's award ceremony with my younger siblings, mother, and grandma

-I also engaged on two **Buck-i-Serv** trips my junior year, which are week long service learning trips offered to all OSU students. During spring break, I traveled (by van) 16 hours to Immokalee, Florida, where I volunteered



With some of the 4 year old students at the Guadalupe Center- in the sandbox!

at the **Guadalupe Center** with young children ranging from 6 weeks to 6 years. 40% of the city is below the poverty line and the Center seeks to "break the cycle of poverty through education", exposing the children to formal education at young ages to enable their success upon entering the public school systems. I had a great time brightening the students' and the staffs' faces with our help throughout the week.

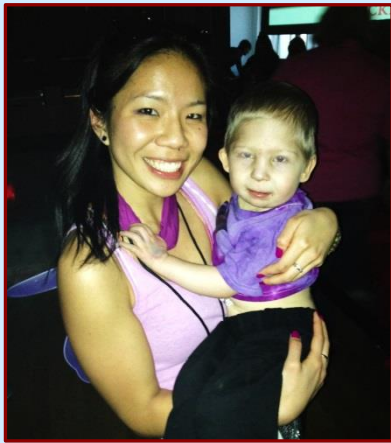
-During the beginning of summer break, I traveled to Atlanta, Georgia, where I volunteered at the **City of Refuge**, a homeless shelter for women and children. Our group stayed at the shelter during the week; this enhanced the experience and helped the volunteers to develop deeper levels of trust with the residents. I was actually asked by the center to write a blog post about my positive experience throughout the week, which can be read [here!](#) (June 4th posting)

-One of my greatest feats this year was completing my first **half-marathon** in Columbus. A few years ago, I would have *never* imagined myself capable of running 13.1 miles. Now, I am registered to run my first FULL marathon in October! Training for the 26.2 miles will be grueling but I am definitely up for the challenge. I plan on running as a Children's Champion once again, which is a marathon participant that fundraises for Nationwide Children's Hospital as part of the experience.

A huge smile of accomplishment after crossing the finish line!



-As you may know, I have participated in **Buckeyethon** for the past 3 years, a 12 hour dance marathon in support of Nationwide Children's Hospital. This past year, I even started my own team and



encouraged many new comers to the Buckeyethon experience. I hope to go out with a bang in my final year at Buckeyethon and fundraise more than I have before!

Every dollar I fundraise as a Children's Champion with the marathon will also count towards my Buckeyethon fundraising total. If you would like to support my fundraising page, please visit:

<http://nationwidechildrens.kintera.org/childrenschampions2014/mwu175>.

I will add each supporter's name to my race day shirt, so please consider donating to my fundraising page in my final year at Ohio State!

I could not have had such an amazing college experience so far without all the continued support I have had over the years. Thank you again for all of your support; it truly motivates me knowing that others believe in my potential!

Lastly, GO BUCKS!

Warm Regards,

Mabel Wu